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Docket No. HRT-0281

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stephen W. Boyd et al.  
Serial No. : 09/982,502 Art Unit : 3738  
Filed : 10/18/2001 Examiner :  
Title : Devices and Methods for Port Access Multivessel Coronary Artery Bypass  
Surgery

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the Divisional Patent Application filed on October 18, 2001, which is a Divisional of prior pending application Serial No. 09/487,024 filed on January 19, 2000. The prior Preliminary Amendment filed on October 18, 2001 incorrectly identified the canceled claims.

In the Claims:

Please cancel, without prejudice, Claims 1-105 and 144-149.